

PHOTOTHERMAL ACTUATOR
AND APPARATUS COMPRISING PHOTOTHERMAL ACTUATOR

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A photothermal actuator comprises an optical fiber
10 bundle, a light inputting apparatus, and a thermal receiving
element. The optical fiber bundle is inserted in a tube of
a catheter etc. The light inputting apparatus inputs light
into the optical fiber bundle. The thermal receiving element
is provided on a part of an outer surface of the optical fiber
15 bundle. The thermal receiving element is heated by the light
so that the thermal receiving element and a part of the optical
fiber bundle are stretched, whereby the optical fiber bundle
and the tube are bent.